

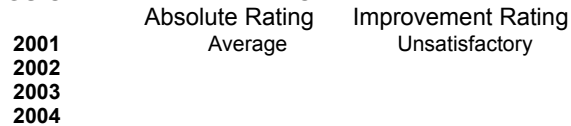
ABSOLUTE RATING: Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Unsatisfactory

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 86.

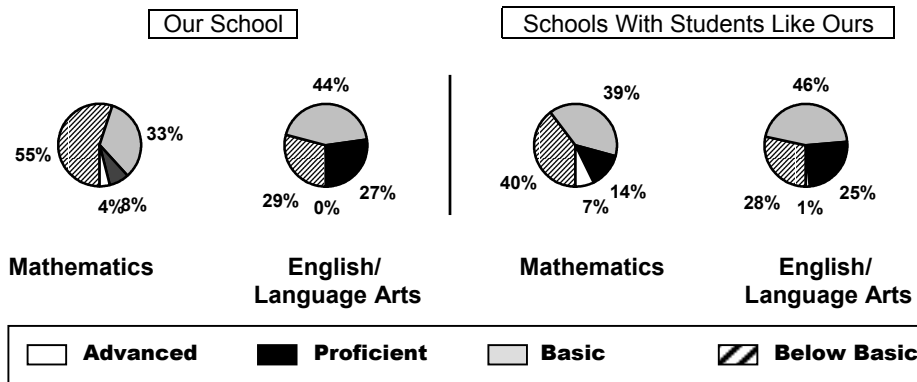
The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=213)	70.9	45.1	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=25)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=188)	74.5	47.9		
Gender				
Male (n=112)	63.4	41.1		
Female (n=101)	79.2	49.5		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=132)	65.9	40.2		
Hispanic (n=3)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=78)	79.5	53.8		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=151)	67.5	41.1		
Pay for lunch (n=62)	79	54.8		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

SCHOOL	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
• Dollars spent per student	\$7,588	N/A	\$5,430	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	89.9%	Down from 90.9%	90.2%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.8 to 1	N/A	18.4 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=430)				
• Attendance Rate	94.7%	Down from 95.9%	96.1%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	0%	N/A	6.1%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	0%	N/A	4.7%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	96.7%	Up from 95.7%	97.4%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	3.8%	Down from 4.2%	4.5%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=38)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	5.7 Days	Down from 7.4	7.3 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	96.4%	Up from 96.3%	95.1%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	34.2%	Down from 46.2%	43.3%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	73.7%	Down from 84.6%	83.3%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	2.6%	Up from 0%	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	78%	Down from 88%	86.3%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$32,792	Down 2.8%	\$36,369	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	65.5%	N/A	65.4%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	6	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	54.8%	N/A	96.2%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	49.4%	Up from 2.9%	53.5%	43.1%
• On academic probation	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	4.9%	Up from 3.2%	1.6%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	0	N/A	2	1
• Gifted and talented	4.7%	Up from 4.1%	8.7%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	13.9%	Down from 15.4%	9.7%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Theodore Lester Elementary is a school with "Extra Special People". All of our staff and our School Improvement Council focus heavily on a positive academic environment. The School Incentive Award was granted to us twice in the last six years.

We have worked very diligently for the South Carolina Writing Exemplary Award. We have enjoyed our Writing Hall of Fame status for the last years. Our writing committee was invited to present for three schools. This year we will be applying for the writing recognition again.

Our students, kindergarten through sixth grade enjoy our Reading Renaissance program.

They are awarded pizza, yo-yo's, bookmarks, bumper stickers, tee shirts and many other goodies for reaching their goal and maintaining 85% or better. For the 2000-01 school year our students read approximately 34,000 books. Last year we had five classes to earn "Model Classroom" and one to earn "Master Classroom". This year we had three teachers to apply for "Master Classroom", eight to apply for "Model Classroom" and the media specialist who applied for "Model Library". We have already received confirmation that the three masters and the library award were earned.

Our School Improvement Council is comprised of "Extra Special People" who have joined hands with the staff to target PACT weaknesses. They opened Christmas, Valentine, and Easter stores to promote math skills and good character by giving to others. The small profit made was used to buy items. They provide different "teacher treats", but their most noted project has been their project of "parent points". Each child is given a card at the beginning of the year. As parents send items to school, attend a school program or conference, send letters through the postal service, participate in the "Parent Writing Prompt", and volunteer during "Parent Helper Week", they are given a number of points. When cards are completed, (twenty points earned), prizes are given such as bumper stickers, tee shirts, trophies, sports bottles, key chains and pocket calendars which are monogrammed with "Extra Special Parent". This year our parents earned a total of 11,234 stickers. Our SIC recognizes student birthdays each month by treating them with cupcakes. Thanks to the SIC support and involvement, Theodore Lester Elementary has a new wing and tiles replacing the carpet for the 2001-02 school year.

Theodore Lester Elementary is a family of "Extra Special People, with loving and caring adults.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	95.0	84.7	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	95.0	69.0	
Satisfied with home-school relations	76.9	89.3	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

2101013

Theodore Lester Elementary
3501 East Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29506-4014

Grades PRE-K K-6 Elementary School

Enrollment: 430 Students

Principal

Mrs. Marlene Williams 843-664-8459

Superintendent

Joseph Staton Nelson 843-673-1106

Board Chair

Doris D. Lockhart 843-662-9907

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Below Average

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com